Ecuador judge rescinds warrant against pg **Registration for State Exam 2011**

Aruba International Pro-Am

Golf Tournament 2010 pg 4

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Exposition on the History of the Brazil Parish

On September 4 to 10 in Centro di Bario Brazil



Folklore in Brazil

Folklore consists of culture, including stories, music, dance, legends, oral history, proverbs, jokes, popular beliefs, customs and so forth within a particular population comprising the traditions (including oral traditions) of that culture, subculture, or group. It is also the set of practices through which those expressive genres are shared. Folklore can be divided into four areas of study: artifact (such as voodoo dolls), describable and transmissible entity (oral tradition), culture, and behavior (rituals). These areas do not stand alone, however, as often a particular item or element may fit into more than one of these areas.

Most of the time the authors are unknown.

Brazil has musical tradition. The inhabitants manufactured among others, tambu, tambor (Tambu drum, marimba, maraca (rattle), wiri, and the guitar tre, a guitar-like instrument with three double strings (six strings in all). The parish also has composers, musical instruments players, singers and joke tellers, since 1861 Aruba had drum players. Nowadays the drum playing is still practiced mostly by the Krozendijk, Quant, Maduro, Vos, Ras and Thiel families.

In the past the 'Tambu' was made of the trunk of the 'Palisia tree, a native tree of

Aruba. Afterwards, the Lago oil refinery established itself on Aruba and introduced the nail drum and it was called 'drum'. One of the 'tambu' songs says: 'Ay tambu y mi tambulero, bati'e bari bo compaña mi, pa complace cu mi amigonan fo'i anochi te mayan'.

So everyone is invited to come and visit the Centro di Bario Brazil in the Brazil district and learn more about this rich culture. The exposition will be open from September 4

Aznavour back on stage in 2011 for possibly last concert

PARIS, France (AFP) star of French song, next year plans to return to the Paris stage that launched his career 55 years ago, hinting, but not for the first time, it may be his last goodbye.

"I'm coming back to the Olympia theatre. We'll close the circle at the Olympia because I'll be 87, almost 88. At some point I'll have to stop," he said yesterday.

After announcing his retire-Charles Aznavour, 86-year-old ment in 1999, then again in 2000, and crooning through a farewell foreign tour in 2006, Aznavour went on tour again

> Aznavour, who was born to Armenian parents and was last year appointed ambassador to Switzerland for Armenia, said that this time he planned to interpret nine new songs among 23 he recently penned.

It will be his first concert in

France since 2007 and his first in three decades at the Olympia.

Asked whether he would announce his retirement during the Olympia concerts, he merely said "perhaps the star will say an 'au revoir."

He also plans a new book next year in which "I'll talk about how, like in everything, age has its springs, its autumns, its winters and sum-

Dutch police arrest two terror suspects on US flight

WASHINGTON (AFP) -Dutch police have charged two men taken off a flight from the United States with "preparation of a terrorist attack," ABC News reported yesterday, citing US and Dutch law enforcement officials.

A spokesman for the Dutch public prosecutor told the news network that the men were arrested "at the request of American authorities," adding that "the investigation is ongoing."

ABC News identified the men as Ahmed Mohamed Nasser al-Soofi and Hezam al-Murisi, and said Soofi was from Yemen, citing one of the man's neighbors.

The men were apparently allowed to board a United Airlines flight from Chicago, Illinois to Amsterdam despite a slew of security concerns, beginning in Birmingham, Alabama, where Soofi appears to have started his journey.

Airport screeners there reportedly stopped him because of his "bulky clothing." They uncovered he was carrying 7,000 dollars in cash, and then opened his luggage, ABC News said.

There they found a cellphone taped to a Pepto-Bismol bottle, three cellphones taped together and several watches taped together, but because no explosives were discovered, he was cleared for the flight to Chicago.

Once at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport, he appears to have checked his luggage on a flight bound for Yemen, with scheduled stops in both Washington's Dulles airport and Dubai. But he did not board the flight.

Instead, he was joined by Murisi, ABC said, and the pair boarded a flight to Amsterdam.

The flight carrying Soofi's luggage reportedly travelled to Washington's Dulles airport, from where it was about to depart to Dubai and then on to Yemen when officials learned his bags were on board but he

The plane was ordered to return to the gate, where the baggage was removed, though officials said no explosives were detected.

Soofi and Murisi were detained when their flight arrived in Amsterdam.



A dress belonging to Adriana, who was kidnapped two years ago along with her brother, is seen during a protest to mark the International Day of the Disappeared in downtown yesterday. Some 3,000 disappearances have occurred for political reasons, human trafficking and the war against drugs over the last three years in Mexico, which has one of Latin America's highest number of enforced disappearances, local media reported, citing civil rights organisations

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Obama visits US troops, plans Bush call ahead of Iraq speech

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US President Barack Obama met yesterday with wounded US soldiers and prepared to call his predecessor George W. Bush a day ahead of an address marking the official end of the US combat mission in Iraq.

Yesterday afternoon, Obama's convoy headed to the Walter Reed military hospital, in the north of US capital Washington, to meet with American troops injured in combat.

Obama is also scheduled to meet US soldiers recently returned from Iraq on Tuesday at a Texas military base before returning to Washington to give the speech to the nation from the Oval Office.

Though Bush returned to Texas to work on his memoirs after leaving office, the White House said Obama was not likely to see his predecessor while in the state.

"I don't think we've got plans to see him, but my sense is that it will be one of the calls that he makes tomorrow,'



White House spokesman Robert Gibbs told reporters.

Obama similarly consulted Bush, the architect of the 2003 US-led invasion of Iraq, before delivering the February 2009 speech in which he laid out the timeline with the withdrawal of US troops from the country.

As of today, there will be fewer than 50,000 US soldiers in the country, tasked primarily with training their Iraqi counterparts, counterterrorism efforts and protecting and assisting with reconstruction

According to the timeline Obama set in 2009, and a security agreement with Iraq that he inherited from the Bush administration, the departure of all US troops from the country should be complete by December 2011.

Obama opposed the March 2003 invasion of Iraq from the beginning, and Gibbs said yesterday that history appeared to bear out the wisdom of his opposition.

"If you look back to the debate in 2002 and in early 2003, I think there's no doubt that there were a series of miscalculations that were made as we got into Iraq," he said.

"I don't think there's any doubt that both the way we went in and with the type of resources that we went in with, we made some pretty huge strategic and tactical errors," Gibbs added.

Ecuador judge rescinds warrant against Colombia president

QUITO, Ecuador (AFP) - An Ecuadoran judge yesterday revoked an arrest warrant against Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos that was issued before he took office in connection with a 2008 Colombian raid on a FARC rebel camp.

"The preventive prison order against Mr. Juan Manuel Santos is revoked," said Judge Daniel Mendez in Lago Agrio, the capital of Sucumbios province on the country's border with Colombia.

However, the judge said the investigation against Santos in connection with the raid "will continue, until the prosecutor presents his decision, either charging or absolving these persons.

Before resigning the post to run for president, Santos was Colombia's defense minister. During his tenure he oversaw a March 1, 2008 military raid into Ecuadoran territory.

The raid killed 25 rebels belonging to the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), including the group's number two Raul Reyes. An Ecuadoran national was among those killed.

Though it was heralded as a major success in Colombia, the cross-border raid was denounced by Ecuador as a violation of its sovereignty and prompted a diplomatic rift between the South American neighbors.

Ecuador issued warrants for the arrest of several Colombian officials accused of involvement in the raid, including military commander General Freddy Padilla de Leon.

But relations between the two countries thawed in November 2009, when they exchanged charge d'affaires.

Media watchdogs sound alarm on DR Congo press freedom

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THE MORNING NEWS

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Caya G. F. Betico Croes 111 Tel: 588-9517 - Fax: 588-9518

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Website: www.themorningnewsaruba.com KINSHASA, Dr Congo (AFP) - Paris-based media watchdog Reporters Without Borders warned yesterday of a "steady decline" in work conditions for journalists in the Democratic Republic of Congo ahead of presidential elections next year.

In an open letter with Kinshasa-based media rights group Journalists in Danger, the organisation urged President Joseph Kabila "to undertake ... courageous and major reforms to promote press freedom" in the country.

The groups said a warning they made in June about threats, arrests and murders had been ignored as had a complaint about difficulties foreign journalists face in reporting on the country.

"Nothing has been done to improve the situation in the two months since then," they said

"Our organisations have even registered 10 more deliberate attacks on journalists and media in the past two months, attacks that could foreshadow even greater repression in the run-up to next year's elections," they added.

The two groups also voiced concern in particular about the head of a newspaper held on treason charges who risks between 20 years in jail and death for having published in 2009 a statement by Hutu rebels of the Rwanda Democratic Liberation Forces (FDLR), who operate in the east of the country.

Army clashes with drug gangs in eastern Mexico: seven dead

VERACRUZ, Mexico (AFP) -At least seven people have been killed in clashes between Mexican soldiers and likely drug gangs not far from where 72 migrants were massacred last week, the military said yesterday.

The clashes began Sunday night in the city of Panuco, bordering northeastern Tamaulipas state which has seen a recent eruption of violence, including explosives attacks and the murger of a mayor in recent days.

Six suspects and one soldier were killed and five soldiers were wounded, the statement said.

The soldiers were attacked with fragmentation grenades and guns when they arrived at an alleged safe house used by drug gangs following a tip-off,

the statement said.

The shootout lasted through the night, and skirmishes were also reported elsewhere in the city, which is in Veracruz state.

Six people were detained, as well as several weapons including 11 AK-47s, the army

Blame for the massacre of 72 Central and South American migrants last week fell on the ruthless Zetas drug gang set up by former elite soldiers.

veracruz governor Fidei Herrera said it was "a rumor for now" that the Zetas were implicated in the Panuco clashes.

Tamaulipas and the neighboring state of Nuevo Leon have become a growing battleground between the powerful Gulf cartel and its former ally, the Zetas



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Registration for State Exam 2011

ORANJESTAD -- Starting the new 2010-2011 school year, all state exams for Mavo/ Havo/VWO will be done according to the new format. State exams done in the new way encloses working with a new profile. Examinees can choose between three different profiles, i.e. Human and Social Sciences, Nature Sciences and Humanities.

State Exam 2011 registration will be from September 1 to September 30, 2010. The registration forms are available as of September 1 at the Exam Bureau at Belgiestraat 2.

The forms must be filled out completely and correctly and delivered at the Exam Bureau. Candidates who comply with all the rules of inscription and pass a screening will be notified to pass at the Bureau to deliver all the necessary documents to complete the registration.

All registrations delivered after September 30 or are not completely filled out will not come into remark for processing.

To participate in the State Exam 2011 the following requirement must be met:

- 1. Candidates must not be registered in a school, day or night with the exception of
- Exam class candidates attending day or evening classes who want to achieve a diploma in only one subject (professional diploma). The subject must not form part of the study package the candidate is following at school



- Exam class candidates following evening classes but want a Course Certificate for only one subject, of which the candidate is not following during evening classes.
- Candidates with one or more certificates given by the Exam Bureau not older than 5 years.
- **2.** As of April 1, 2011 all candidates must be:
- 17 years or more to participate in State Exam Mavo;
- 18 years or more to participate in State Exam Havo;
- 19 years or more to participate in Lands Exam VWO.
- 3. Candidates must submit their inscription form completely filled out on time (before September 30, 2010) at the concerned bodies.
- 4. Candidates who have submitted their registration forms on time (before September 30, 2010) and paid the complete fee for passing the State Exam

The Exam Bureau also informs all candidates that:

- 1. Beginning the new school year of 2010-2011 all Mavo/Havo/VWO state exams will be done according to the new format.
- With the exception of:
 Havo and VWO candidates with certificate(s) not older than 5 years for the following subjects: Mathematics A1,2 / Mathematics B1,2 and for sub divisions Mathematics A1/ Mathematics B1/ Economy 1/ Physics 1 and Chemistry.
- Candidates with VWO Business Studies & Law I and Business Studies & Law II certificates together with 5 or 6 other subjects can use the 2011-2011 schoolyear for the last time to obtain a VWO diploma.
- 2. Certificates obtained via State Exam are valid for a maximum period of 5 years. This means that certificates older than 5 years will expire.

Curacao Isla refinery start-up moving forward

WILLEMSTAD, Curacao - Several minor units of Curacao's 335,000 barrel per day Isla refinery have restarted after being paralysed for months, but the key catalytic cracker will not start for several weeks, it was reported.

The facility has been out of action for five months because of recurrent problems at the nearby utility plant that supplies it with water, electricity and steam.

The refinery would be operating normally by October if several boilers at the utility plant were repaired on time, according to a spokesperson.

Venezuela's state oil com-

pany PDVSA has run the Curacao-owned Isla refinery since 1985. Last year, a Curacao court ruled that PDVSA must upgrade the aging facility to meet air quality standards.

PDVSA has in the past said it would like to buy Isla. The Isla plant represent more than 10 percent of the global capacity for PDVSA's worldwide refinery network.

A massive tank depot next to the Curacao refinery site, which can hold up to 16 million barrels of crude oil, has become a key staging point for Venezuelan crude oil shipments to China.

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PAR wins Curacao elections, MFK second

WILLEMSTAD - The PAR party of Curacao won Friday's island council elections with 22,505 votes. Second runner up was the MFK with 15,949 votes. The Pueblo Soberano (PS) party came in third with 13,881.

Gerrit Schotte and his MFK party is still being viewed as the major winner of the elec-

tions on Friday noting that his party is a new comer on the political scent there.

Leader of the PAR Prime Minister Emily de Jongh Elhage stated on Saturday morning that her coalition has been broken and that she will now start talks immediately to form the next government.

It is now being speculated

that the next government will consist of the PAR and the MFK as the PAR has 8 seats and the MFK 5, giving them enough to form a government by together.

The PS managed to get 4 seats, MAN 2, FOL 1 and the PNP 1 seat.

Earl strengthens to major Caribbean hurricane

CAROLINA, Puerto Rico—Hurricane Earl tore through the northern Caribbean yesterday, escalating to Category 3 status with winds up to 125 miles an hour that downed power lines, damaged homes and sent hundreds of people fleeing to emergency shelters.

The hurricane hit the smallest of the Leeward Islands — Antigua, Barbuda, St. Marten and St. Martin — on Sunday, before veering toward the U.S. and British Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

The National Weather Center said yesterday afternoon that the governments of Antigua and Barbuda had discontinued the tropical storm warning for both islands, as well as Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis. But later yesterday, Puerto Rico and its two island municipalities, Vieques and Culebra, were under a hurricane watch, as the system continued moving west.

Gov. Luis Fortuño announced the closing of all public schools and sent all public workers home. Most flights from the Luis Muñoz

Marín Airport in San Juan to the Leeward islands were canceled yesterday, leaving about 550 people stranded at the airport.

As thousands were left without power in French islands hit earlier yesterday by the storm, US forecasters were eyeing Earl's path fearing it may churn westwards to brush the eastern US coast towards the weekend.

Current forecast models have the storm lashing the eastern US coastline on Friday, possibly reaching as far north as the Canadian province of New Brunswick by Saturday. But it remained unclear whether it would make landfall.

Midway through the annual Atlantic hurricane season, the eye of the storm passed over the French islands of Saint Martin and Saint Barthelemy early yesterday, bringing down trees and snapping power lines.

The French company EDF estimated some 3,500 people were left without power in the two islands, and were planning to send in reinforcements from Martinique to re-

pair downed lines. In Guadeloupe another 4,000 people had no electricity.

Authorities said there were about 10,000 people without electricity and another 3,100 without running water.

In St. Maarten, sand and debris littered the streets, and winds knocked down trees and electricity poles and damaged roofs. But a police spokesman said there was no extensive damage to property

The center of Hurricane Earl was expected to whip past the northernmost Virgin Islands later yesterday, the Miami-based US center said

Meanwhile, the National Hurricane Center said Tropical Storm Fiona has formed in the Atlantic Ocean behind Hurricane Earl, which is battering the northeastern Caribbean.

Fiona formed east of the Leeward Islands yesterday afternoon and forecasters say a tropical storm watch may be required.

The storm has winds of 40 mph (65 kph) and is about 890 miles (1,435 km) east of the Leeward Islands.



"Spiderman" climbs Sydney building into police net

SYDNEY, Australia – A French daredevil climber who has scaled skyscrapers around the world was arrested in Sydney yesterday after climbing a 57-storey building and into the arms of waiting police.

Alain Robert, 48, who is also known as the French Spiderman, was taken into police custody when he reached the top of the 57-storey Lumiere Building in central Sydney.

Robert, 48, took 20 minutes to scale the 151 meter (495 feet) tall building using just his bare hands and without safety equipment, cheered on by a crowd of about 100 onlookers.

"It's a wonderful achievement," his agent Max Markson told reporters. "He's the best at what he does. I'm sad he's been arrested, but hopefully he'll get out soon and we can have some champagne."

Robert has been arrested



Alain Robert

many times in various countries as authorities rarely give permission for his dangerous climbs.

Robert first climbed a building at the age of 12 when he got locked out of his apartment and decided to mount the eight stories up to an open window. He has since climbed more than 80 buildings around the world including Chicago's Sears Tower and Taipei 101 in Taiwan.

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Aruba Tourism Authority, EZ-Go & Tierra del Sol Golf Course conclude

Aruba International Pro-Am Golf Tournament 2010



The Aruba International Pro-Am unfolded over the weekend at Tierra del Sol Golf Course. It resulted in an action-packed weekend delivering great golf, cocktail parties, dinners under the stars and the opportunity to network and connect with international and amateur golfers from many different countries including the USA, St. Thomas, Holland, Aruba, Curacao, Puerto Rico, Brazil, Venezuela, Colombia, Argentina and the Netherlands.

The Aruba International Pro Am Tournament was launched at a Welcome Reception on Friday. On Saturday morning, Ventanas del Mar restaurant served delicious brunch to all participants, followed by a BBQ dinner on the lawn overlooking the California Lighthouse, at the end of the day.

On Sunday, chef v/d Dorst reports brunch was a lavish production, followed by a Gala Award party in the evening, awarding trophies and prizes to winners.

Golf Pro Williamson reports that 24 teams enjoyed the island's hospitality, each team made up of 4 amateur golfers and one pro. The tournament, explains Williamson, is designed to promote Aruba as a golf destination. Each year, the international representatives of the Aruba Tourism Authority prepare for this world-class golf-event by running "Copa Aruba," a local golf tournament in their respective countries around the globe.

The winners of those local tournaments are selected to play here at the Aruba International PRO-AM Golf Tournament, which unfolded for the 16th time, August 27th to 29th at Tierra del Sol.

The tournament is also









sponsored by Balashi Beer, AWA & Samuel Adams, Colombian Emeralds International, Aruba Aloe, Divi Links, and TopCar offering a car for the winner of a-hole-in-one during the two-day tournament.

Helping host players during their stay, Divi Village and Tierra del Sol's villa rental department.

Pictured here snapshots from two days of golf and parties at Tierra del Sol.



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The Radisson Aruba Resort, Casino & Spa hosts Manager of the Quarter Festivities at Hot Triggers Paintball Park





A very entertaining managers' outing was organized by Angelique Croes, Human Resources Manager at the Ra- disson Aruba Resort, Casino & Spa in honor of the resort's hard-working managers.

The outing to the Paintball Park in Barcadera served a double purpose, as a fun social gathering as well as an award ceremony.

The fun part was easy. Dressed in camouflage combat suits, and armed with paintball guns, the Radisson executives formed two



teams, and played four games chasing each other shooting marking pellets, while attempting to protect their flag station.

Henri Barrau reports that while the games did not result in a clear win, the teams had a lot of fun playing DMW, Dead Man Walking, and strategizing behind barricades in their paintball gear.

Between games, the award ceremony recognized Lisa Dammerman as Manager of the Quarter. Dammerman, the



resort's Weddings Specialist received a handsome plaque from General Manager Rob Smith, thanking her for her excelling performance, her "Yes, I Can Attitude" and her dedication to quality service. The Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa enjoyed a busy summer, with a great number of couples tying the knot here while Dammerman took care of all details with the outmost atten-

tion. "Brides simply love Lisa," says Arianne Valentino the resort's Director of Sales & Marketing.

Runner up Henri Barrau, the resort's Director of Security was also recognized for his tireless efforts and for valuable contributions to his department and the resort.

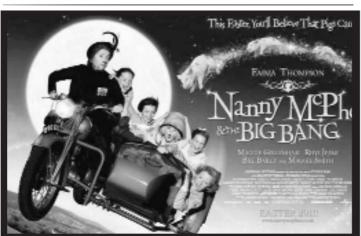
Pictured here Hot Trigger Painball Park, with Radisson executives on the rampage.



*matinee: saturday & sunday | **late show: friday & saturday

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NANNY MCPHEE RETURNS (2010) (COMEDY) - IN THE LATEST RIED YOUNG MOTHER, MRS. ISABEL GREEN, WHO IS TRYING TO RUN THE FAMILY FARM WHILE HER HUSBAND IS AWAY AT WAR. BUT ONCE SHE'S ARRIVED, NANNY MCPHEE DISCOVERS THAT MRS. GREEN'S CHILDREN ARE FIGHTING A WAR OF THEIR OWN AGAINST TWO SPOILED CITY COUSINS WHO HAVE JUST MOVED IN AND REFUSE TO LEAVE. RELYING ON EVERYTHING FROM A FLYING MOTORCYCLE AND A STATUE THAT COMES TO LIFE TO A TREE-CLIMBING PIGLET AND A BABY ELEPHANT WHO TURNS UP IN THE ODDEST PLACES, NANNY McPhee uses her magic to teach her mischievous charges **FIVE NEW LESSONS.**

Science/Tech **Nintendo to Drop Prices of DSi, DSi XL Starting Sept.** 12

Nintendo on Monday said it will drop the price of its DSi XL and DSi portable gaming devices by \$20 starting Sept.

The DSi system, previously priced at \$169.99, will be available for \$149.99, while the DSi XL will drop from \$189.999 to \$169.99.

The Nintendo DS Lite will continue to sell for \$129.99.

"We know shoppers want to get the maximum value out of every dollar they spend," Cammie Dunaway, Nintendo of America's executive vice president of sales and marketing, said in a statement. "Our new Nintendo DSi prices make it easier than ever for consumers to access the tremendous variety of games, applications, and social tools on the Nintendo DSi and Nintendo DSi XL systems."

The Nintendo DSi made its debut in April 2009 with new additions like a camera and larger, clearer screens. The DSi XL hit stores in late March, and the device included screens that were 93 percent larger than the DSi, as well as a wider viewing angle.

At the E3 gaming conference this year, Nintendo showed off a 3D version of the DS, dubbed the 3DS. It was recently reported, however, that the 3DS is not expected to ship until March.

For more details, see PCMag's full reviews of the DSi XL, the DSi, and the DS

Report: Oxford Dictionary Moving To-ward Online-Only Model

Stories about print publications switching to an all-digital format are nothing new, but what about the dictionary? The publisher of the Oxford English Dictionary is reportedly mulling a switch to an online-only version of the 126-year-old book.

Nigel Portwood, chief executive of Oxford University Press, told The Sunday Times that the newest edition of the dictionary would likely be published on the Web.

"The print dictionary market is just disappearing. It is falling away by tens of percent a year," he told the Times, but said a print version "will certainly be considered if there is sufficient demand at the time of publication."







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New Type of El Niño **Emerges as Climate** Changes

A relatively new type of El Niño, featuring warmer waters in a different part of the Pacific Ocean, is becoming more common and stronger, according to a new study that suggests the development may help scientists tease out the relationship between El Niño's and climate change.

The warm surface waters of this El Niño type are in the central equatorial Pacific rather than in the eastern equatorial Pacific. The intensity of El Niño in the central Pacific has nearly doubled since 1982, with the most intense event occurring in 2009-10, according to the

The stronger El Niño is alternately known as the "Central Pacific El Niño," "warm-pool El Niño," "dateline El Niño" or "El Niño Modoki" - Japanese for "similar but different." Scientists say it helps explain a steady rise in central Pacific sea surface temperatures observed over the past few decades - a trend often attributed to global warming.

"These results suggest climate change may already be affecting El Niño by shifting the center of action from the eastern to the central Pacific," said study team member Michael McPhaden of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in Seattle. "El Niño's impact on global weather patterns is different if ocean warming occurs primarily in the central Pacific, instead of the eastern Pacific.

"If the trend we observe continues." McPhaden added. "it could throw a monkey wrench into long-range weather forecasting, which is largely based on our understanding of El Niños from the latter half of the 20th century."

Despite a rise in sea surface temperatures during El Niño years, no significant temperature increases were seen in years when ocean

conditions were neutral or when El Niño's cool-water counterpart, La Niña, was present.

"Our study concludes the long-term warming trend seen in the central Pacific is primarily due to more-intense El Niño rather than a general rise of background temperatures," said study team member Tong Lee of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif.

Scientists measured changes in El Niño intensity since 1982. They analyzed NOAA satellite observations of sea surface temperature, checked against and blended with directly measured ocean temperature data. The strength of each El Niño was gauged by how much its sea surface temperatures deviated from the average.

Further research is needed to evaluate the impacts of these increasingly intense El Niños and determine why these changes are occurring, Lee said.

"It is important to know if the increasing intensity and frequency of these Central Pacific El Niños are due to natural variations in climate or to climate change caused by human-produced greenhouse gas emissions," Lee

El Niño, Spanish for "the little boy," is the oceanic component of a climate pattern (called the El Niño-Southern Oscillation) that appears in the tropical Pacific Ocean on average every three to five years.

El Niños can influence global weather patterns and the occurrence and frequency of hurricanes, droughts and floods. El Niños can even raise or lower global temperatures by as much as 0.4 degrees Fahrenheit (0.2 degrees Celsius).

The study was detailed in the July 24 edition of the journal Geophysical Research Letters.

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HEALTH - LIVING

Heart pill 'could save 10,000 lives a year' LONDON (AFP) – A pill for

chest pains costing £10 a week could save the lives of thousands of heart failure patients and dramatically reduce hospital admissions, trial results published Monday suggest.

Professor Martin Cowie, who led the UK-based part of the study, said the drug could prevent up to 10,000 deaths a year in the UK and described it as "a significant breakthrough"

The pill, ivabradine -- also known under the brand name Procoralan -- is already available in the UK for angina.

The trial involved more than 6,500 patients in 37 countries, all with chronic heart failure and a high heart rate of at least 70 beats per minute, already on treatments such as beta-blockers.

The results, presented Monday at the European Society of Cardiology annual meeting in Stockholm and published in the Lancet medical journal, suggest that ivabradine could be used to treat thousands of patients with moderate to severe heart failure.

Over two years, the drug cut trial patients' risk of death from heart failure by 26 percent and had a similar impact on the likelihood of being admitted to hospital because of worsening symptoms.

Prof Cowie, who is a consultant cardiologist at the Royal Brompton Hospital in London, said: "We now know that more lives can be saved and improved simply by adding ivabradine to their current treatment in order to take some of the strain off the

"It is vital that the results of this study are implemented and ivabradine is used as part of standard heart failure treatment as soon as possible.

Unlike other treatments, ivabradine lowers the number of heart beats per minute without reducing blood pressure. It has a strong safety record, with fewer trial patients taking it suffering serious side effects than those on other medications.

More than 700,000 people

over the age of 45 live with heart failure, which occurs when damage to the heart leaves it too weak to pump blood efficiently round the body. It can lead to serious complications, and around 40 percent of those affected die within a year.

Treating heart failure uses up one to two percent of the total NHS budget each year, with direct medical costs alone reaching £625 million.

Treating a single patient with ivabradine costs around £10 a week.

But American expert Dr John Teerlink, from the University of California in San Francisco, cautioned against rushing into adopting the treatment.

He said there are "many unresolved questions" and additional clinical trials are needed

However, whether ivabradine can improve outcomes in addition to optimally managed heart failure therapies or its benefits relative to other therapies, especially beta blockers, remains unknown.

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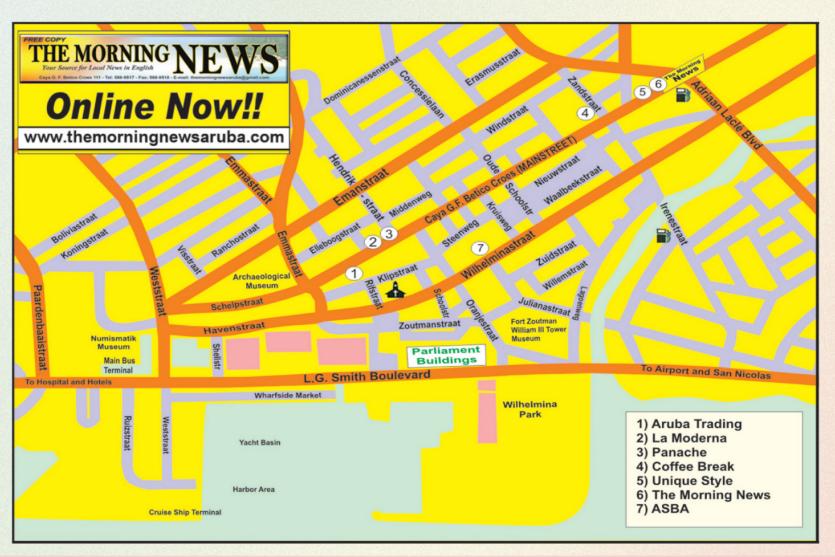
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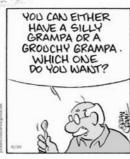
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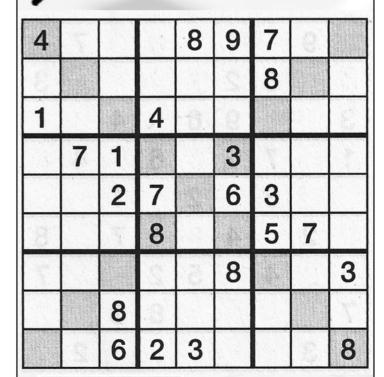
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contain the numbers 1 through 9

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Guyana to purchase lowercost jet fuel from Venezuela

GEORGETOWN, Guyana (AFP) - Guyana is to purchase lower-cost jet fuel from neighboring Venezuela to reduce airfares and attract new airlines, President Bharrat Jagdeo said yesterday.

He said the state-owned Guyana Oil Company would be used to import jet fuel from Venezuela and the country would benefit from increased passenger-flow even though profit would not be significant.

"Even if they don't make much on the profit-margin, we get the benefit in cheaper travel and people coming home, and the departure taxes that they pay so you make it back on the other side and the tourism product grows," he told reporters.

The jet fuel would not be purchased under the Petrocaribe concessionary oil-payment facility, created by Venezuela in 2005.

Sol and Texaco currently sell aviation jet fuel at five US dollars per gallon while

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

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Guyana hopes to purchase it for at least 2.35 per gallon.

A group of Greek investors are planning to base an airline in Guyana that would fly to the Caribbean and North America.

"If we can bring that (fuel) price down, it makes it very attractive to have a home-based airline," said Jagdeo.

The Guyana government could get a free equity stake in a new Guyana-based Greek airline in exchange for tax concession.

Guyana has consistently quarreled with the Trinidad and Tobago-owned Caribbean Airlines over its expensive fares.

Google, AP reach content licensing agreement

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Google and the Associated Press announced yesterday they have reached a licensing agreement that will allow the search giant to continue hosting content from the US news agency.

The deal, terms of which were not disclosed, was concluded after what the AP described in a story as "months of sometimes thorny negotiations." It replaces an agreement that expired in January.

The agreement allows Google to display AP content on such properties as Google News, the search giant's popular news aggregator.

The Wall Street Journal, citing "people familiar with the

matter," said the agreement will allow Google News to host AP articles for "at least two more years" and for Google to pay the AP "in the seven figures annually."

The newspaper said the AP had backed off certain demands including an attempt to have more of a say in how prominently AP content is featured in search results.

The AP, in a statement, said that under the agreement, the California-based Internet company and New York-based news agency will "work together in a number of new areas, such as ways to improve discovery and distribution of news."

"We look forward to future

collaborations, including on ways Google and AP can work together to create a better user experience and new revenue opportunities," Google senior business product manager Josh Cohen said.

Agence France-Presse and a number of other international news agencies also have licensing agreements with Google.

Google first entered into a licensing deal with AP in 2006.

With the Google-AP negotiations at an impasse, Google in December stopped posting new AP content on Google News. AP content reappeared in February after the original agreement was extended.

US stocks drop amid new fears for economy

NEW YORK (AFP) - US stocks slumped yesterday over weak consumer spending figures and ahead of key data later this week expected to show the US economic recovery is slowing down.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was down 140.92 points (1.39 percent) to 10,009.73 in closing trade, while the broader S&P 500 index lost 15.67 points (1.47 percent) to 1,048.92.

The tech-rich Nasdaq composite index shed 33.66 points (1.56 percent) to 2,119.97 as daily trade volume remained low.

Commerce Department data showed consumer spending rose 0.4 percent and incomes rose 0.2 percent last month, largely in line with

Consumer spending is a key driver of US economic

key driver of US economic growth, usually accounting for two-thirds of output.

"The majority of the decline was simply because of

"The majority of the decline was simply because of this morning's numbers. We got some very disappointing income numbers, and figures showing spending is outpacing income," FTN Financial analyst Lindsey Piegza told AFP

All eyes will turn to the release of the monthly employment data on Friday, with most analysts forecasting non-farm payrolls to fall by 118,000 in August and unemployment to edge up to 9.6 percent from the current 9.5 percent rate.

Tomorrow, the Institute for Supply Management index is expected to show slower manufacturing output.

Wall Street had rallied on Friday after Federal Reserve chief Ben Bernanke offered reassurances the US central bank was ready to step in if the economy faltered.

In a highly anticipated speech, Bernanke said that the sluggish pace of the US economic recovery was weaker than expected and promised "unconventional" steps to boost growth if the economic outlook "deteriorated significantly."

He nevertheless said that prospects for a US growth pick-up in 2011 appeared to "remain in place" despite a sharp cutback in the pace of second quarter economic expansion

Yesterday opened with a

slew of news on mergers and acquisitions.

Computer giant IBM announced the acquisition of Storwize, which specializes in data storage and organization, for an undisclosed sum.

Microchip bellwether Intel further announced it had entered into a definitive agreement to buy Infineon's Wireless Solutions for some 1.4 billion dollars as Intel eyes the mobile phone market.

Industrial conglomerate 3M announced the acquisition of biometric technology firm Cogent Systems for 943 million dollars.

Finally, the US biotechnology firm Genzyme said it had rejected an 18.5-billiondollar takeover offer from French pharmaceutical giant Sanofi-Aventis.

Among the stocks in focus, United Airlines shares rose by 1.27 percent and Continental Airlines's stocks were up 0.41 percent after the Justice Department Friday gave its green light to the two companies' three billion dollar merger.

Computer-making giant Hewlett-Packard saw its stocks rise by 1.47 percent after it had announced a 10 billion stock buyback.

The bonds market was higher.

The yield on the 10-year US Treasury bond was down to 2.545 percent from 2.652 percent on Friday while that on the 30-year bond fell to 3.602 percent from 3.698 percent. Bond yield and prices move in opposite directions.

US spending, incomes edge upward

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US consumers are spending slightly more as their incomes are rising modestly, official data showed yesterday, doing little to dispel fears about the health of the economy.

The Commerce Department said spending rose 0.4 percent in July as incomes rose 0.2 percent, broadly in line with forecasts.

Economists had expected spending to increase 0.3 percent and income to increase 0.2 percent.

"Spending growth was the fastest since March and the trend remains one of very modest growth," said Scott Hoyt of Moody's Economy.com.

Consumer spending is a key driver of US economic growth, usually accounting for two-thirds of output.

Spending rose by 23.3 billion dollars in July versus a drop of five billion dollars the month before.

According to Zach Pandl of Nomura Global Economics, the spending jump was linked to strong auto sales.

The Commerce Department revised downward its estimates of spending and income for June, which were seen as unchanged versus the previous month.

It also reported that the price index, one measure of inflation, increased 0.2 percent.

Have you had your breakfast today? The Old Fisherman offers breakfast with an Aruban twist



R-l, Monica and Amarilis with their fellow colleagues

When Linda and Ramon Pimienta started their small business at the old wharf down town, little did they know that they had a goldmine when it comes to the perfect blend of international and local cuisine. Nowadays, they are located right behind the Royal Plaza Mall where they serve up a storm to visitors and locals alike. What is their secret? Offering high quality dishes at super prizes

have been with the company for ten years are ready to serve you with a smile.

Besides serving traditional breakfast dishes such as eggs sunny side up with ham and cheese, scrambled or plain they also serve pastechi horna (a small pie pocket with different fillings), crêpes, sweet crêpes and bagels with cream cheese, smoked salmon or boiled eggs.

If you want to really experience the Aruban twist you



that fit anyone's budget.

For ten years The Old Fisherman has been serving local cuisine with an international twist for lunch and dinner and they have managed to stay on top by using high might want to try something from the local breakfast menu served on pan grandi (rama) or a baguette. You can try the delicious kerrie-kerrie (a typical Aruban flaked fish), conch, fish egg, shrimp,



quality fresh ingredients. From their fish cakes with "funchi" (polenta) and "pan bati" nicely presented to soup of the day accompanied by delicious deserts.

Now they are serving you breakfast with an Aruban twist at bargain prizes.

Monica and Amarilis who

fish fillet, fish cake and the chicken soup or you can have fruit salad and yoghurt.

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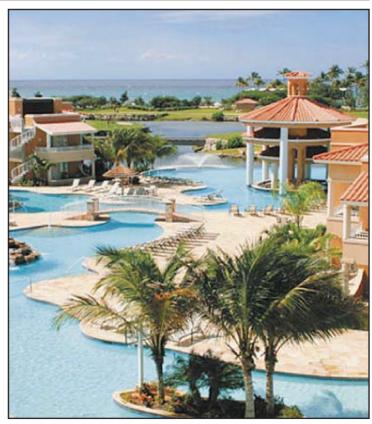
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niences. As always, our private balconies take advantage of soothing breezes and island views. If you are interested in this exciting new development, we invite you to visit our condominium sales office at the 2nd floor of the Links at Divi Aruba clubhouse next

to Windows on Aruba restaurant.

Contact us for an appointment at +297 735 5252 / 735 5300 or email us at sales@diviarubaresidences.c om . You may also visit us online at www.diviarubaresidences.com.

New York street food goes gourmet





NEW YORK (AFP) – Carrot buns, lemon macaroons, golden veal cutlets and tamarind ice cream spiked with balsamic vinegar are taking New York by storm, as street carts trade workingclass fare for delicacies.

Websites, online social networks and especially micro-blogging website Twitter keep alive the trend, first launched on the West Coast.

The tweets point gastronomes to where street carts serve up the best fare of the day.

"Remember guys, we'll b @ 52nd b/w 6th & 7th today @ 11:30-2. The sun is out. the mood is good, and the schnitz is fresh:) so come getcha sum," tweeted Oleg Voss, a 28-year-old culinary school graduate and one-time investment banker.

Voss, who says the brutal economic recession pushed him to make a career change and open a street cart in Manhattan, counts some 5,400 followers on Twitter.

Dozens of them come each day to grab a bite of schnitzel -- breaded meat or fish cutlets -- from "Schnitzel & Things," a brown and white cart Voss started with his 35-year-old brother, Gene.

"I had just been hired as an investment banker in Vienna when the recession began: last hired, I was the first fired," recalled Voss, who also graduated from New York University's Stern School of Business.

The Ukrainian-born entrepreneur decided to sell schnitzel after becoming a fan of the cutlets in Vienna. He serves them handpounded, lightly breaded and "fried to golden perfection" with mashed potatoes or french fries.

"Here the veal is too expensive, so I buy chicken or beef," he told AFP while writing down orders from his clientele mainly consisting of young lawyers and bankers working in the neighborhood.

"But everything is top quality, the bread crumbs are put at the last minute, the frying oil is organic and renewed every day."

In addition to Voss's

brother, two cooks work up the stoves in the back of the cart. They serve about 200 meals per day, each sold for about 10 dollars.

A little over a dozen "gourmet" carts work up New York's streets, accounting for less than 10 percent of the Big Apple's street food industry.

Many restaurateurs struggle to enter the market, only succeeding if they manage to prevail over an arduous process to obtain permits from the city.

Grant Di Mille, who runs his "Street Sweets" cart with his wife Samira Mahboubian had to jostle with the ice-cream men "mafia" to keep his buns, croissants and cupcakes business open.

"Three Mister Softee guys came and threatened to burn our truck," said Di Mille, referring to the half-century old franchisor of trucks serving up soft ice cream.

He and his wife worked in marketing for two decades before launching their street cart nearly two years ago.

"We wanted to have our own business," said Iranianborn Mahboubian, who was inspired by her mother's confections.

The couple finally got their permit, then made some friends in the New York police force. Their business is now thriving.

They prepare sweets for events organized by companies and sports clubs, and also rent out a second truck to clients

Douglas Quint opted to open his "Big Gay Ice Cream Truck" in the summers to supplement his income as a bassoonist in Boston in winter

At the major downtown intersection of Union Square, he sells an array of surprising flavors: olive oil and sea salt, the "Salty Pimp" (vanilla ice cream, caramel, sea salt and chocolate dip), toasted curried coconut, pumpkin butter, cardamom and elderflower syrun

"People love ice creams but all the others serve the same thing. I use a better ice cream, add a lot of layers. I convince people to try it and they love it! It's like running an open kitchen," said Quint,

"The trend is growing," he concluded as he prepared to travel to San Francisco for a conference on street food.



Katy Perry revisits adolescence in 'Teenage Dream'



PARIS (AFP) – Katy Perry made the world sit up and listen for "kissing a girl", in her 2008 debut smash hit single, and her third and latest album "Teenage Dream", hitting stores this month, again reveals her sassy side.

The pop star's very first record, a Christian-gospel inspired album released under her real name Katy Hudson, went unnoticed on its 2001 release.

But with the creation of pin-up persona Katy Perry the 25-year-old's career took off. Her second album, "One of the Boys," has sold over five million copies worldwide in two years.

It outlined the megastar's sexy new style, embodied by the single "I Kissed a Girl", and "Teenage Dream" continues to tread this path.

In "Peacock," the singer ambiguously stresses the second syllable, though in understated fashion in contrast to pop rival Lady Gaga's more aggressively sexual style

style.

"I consider "Teenage
Dream" to be the logical continuation of my first album. I
don't think people want me
to be anyone other than myself," Perry, the daughter of
two pastors, said.

The album sleeve captures the performer's provocative but seldom vul-

gar image, picturing a nude Perry lying on a cloud of cotton candy.

Her fantasy world circled the globe in this summer's radio and music video channel favourite single, "California Gurls," whose video features cookies and uncouth gummy bears living in harmony with American gangster rapper Snoop Dogg.

This colourful world was created, by the singer's own admission, as a response to Jay-Z and Alicia Keys more sombre ode to New York, "Empire State of Mind," and its black and white video.

"I love the vibe that Santa Barbara gives off and I wanted to really tap into the purity of my childhood," the singer said of her decision to record the album in her California home town.

Opening with the title track, a love song celebrating the memory of adolescent stirrings, the album then goes on to explore the spectrum of teenage emotions, sometimes melancholic as in "The One That Got Away", and sometimes manic as in "Hummingbird Heart".

Perry's voice is occasionally lost in music in the first lighter section of the album. But in the second half the vocals shine through during the slower tempo tracks and when accompanied by piano on "Pearl" and "Not Like the Movies."

"This record is at least as important, if not more, than the first because it will really show whether my success was due to luck, which I absolutely do not believe," she said.

Reviews so far show it set to be another best-seller for the young US star.

Soderling struggles but advances at US Open



NEW YORK (AFP) - Roger Federer nearly saw the highest-ranked obstacle in his path to the US Open semi-finals eliminated in the first round, but Robin Soderling survived a Monday struggle against a Grand Slam debutante.

French Open runner-up Soderling outlasted 214thranked Austrian qualifier Andreas Haider-Maurer 7-5, 6-3, 6-7 (2/7), 5-7, 6-4 after three hours and 52 minutes. He will next face American Taylor Dent or Colombian Alejandro Falla.

Swedish fifth seed Soderling ousted Federer in a French Open quarter-final, ending the Swiss star's run of 23 consecutive Grand Slam semi-finals, and the two are on course to meet in the US Open quarter-finals if form holds.

Also advancing on day one of the year's last Slam were Russian sixth seed Nikolay Davydenko, who beat American Michael Russell 6-4, 6-1, 6-3, and US ninth seed Andy Roddick, ousted France's who Stephane Robert 6-3, 6-2, 6-

World number two Federer, seeking his 17th Grand Slam title and seventh consecutive trip to the US Open final, was set to face Argentina's Brian Dabul in a

night match at Arthur Ashe Stadium.

Federer's run of five consecutive US Open titles was ended last year by Argentina's Juan Martin Del Potro, who is injured and not defending his title.

Soderling squandered four match points in the third set but rallied in the fifth to dispatch 214thranked Haider-Maurer, a 23-year-old who fired 34 aces past the first top-10 opponent of his career.

Soderling, never be-yond the final eight at a US Open, fell behind 4-1 but won six of the last seven games in the first set and seized a 4-1 edge en route to taking the second set as well.

Haider-Maurer saved four match points in the third set and jumped to a 6-1 lead in the tie-break to

force a fourth set. When Soderling netted a forehand smash to surrender a break and the fourth set, he was pushed to the brink.

Soderling broke in the fifth game of the final set and served out for the triumph, although Haider-Maurer hit 58 winners to Soderling's 44 and made 65 unforced errors to 74 by the Swede, who felt fine despite the endurance test.

Davydenko, whose best US Open runs came in 2006 and 2007 when he lost to eventual champion Federer in the semi-finals, will next face Frenchman Richard Gasquet, who defeated Germany's Simon Greul 6-3, 6-4,

Davydenko was sidelined for three months with a broken left wrist suffered at Indian Wells last March and has struggled since then, winning back-to-back matches only once to leave him uncertain about stamina if five sets are needed.

Roddick advanced on his 28th birthday, saying, "It's a number. I'm barely older than I was yesterday", and indicated he is still feeling the effects of mononucleosis that has slowed him for months.

"Once you decide to play, you throw away the other things. It's not perfect but it's fine. It's going the right way."

Kei Nishikori advanced when Kazak rival Evgeny Korolev retired with a right elbow injury with the 147thranked Japanese qualifier ahead 7-6 (7/0), 5-2. Nishikori next faces Croatian 11th seed Marin Cilic.

Croatian qualifier Ivan Dodig, ranked 146th, advanced when Chilean 27th seed Fernando Gonzalez retired with a knee injury trailing 6-7 (2/7), 6-1, 1-0.



Clijsters out for more Grand Slam glory

NEW YORK (AFP) - By most standards, Kim Clijsters has enjoyed a stellar year in 2010, but she says that the frustrations are building up and notably with her performances in the big tournaments.

The 27-year-old Belgian, who ended a two-year long retirement 13 months ago and promptly won her second US Open title, has won three WTA Tour titles this year, the last coming at Cincinnati earlier this month.

But a devastating 6-0, 6-1, third round loss to Nadia Petrova in the Australian Open was followed by nonparticipation due to injury at the French Open and a quarter-final loss to Vera Zvonareva at Wimbledon.

For Clijsters, that is not good enough.

"It's been frustrating that I haven't been able to play the French and playing that horrible match at the Australian Open to me was frustrating," she said.

"But at the time, I was like, 'OK, it's my second Grand Slam and I just have to get back into it.'

"And then at Wimbledon there was the match where I've never been more disappointed after a loss than that match against Zvonareva.

"So, of course in my situation now, because I don't play that full schedule, I really want to do well in those bigger tournaments, whether it's the Grand Slams or Indian Wells, Miami, those big tournaments.

"When you get a taste of winning tournaments, you obviously want to do it also in the big tournaments."

Clijsters, who opened her US Open campaign with a 6-0, 7-5 win over Greta Arn of Hungary, is aware that a year



on from her stunning achievement of last year, things have moved on.

Twelve months ago, she felt more in the dark over how she would match up to the top players having been out of the game for over two years and in turn she was something of a unknown quantity for them.

Also, the challenges for Clijsters have changed.

Serena Williams is out injured and sister Venus has not played since Wimbledon be-

cause of a knee injury. Dinara Safina is already out of the tournament, losing in the first round to Daniela Hantuchova as she struggles to comeback from a serious back injury.

Instead, the top seeding in the tournament has gone to Caroline Wozniacki, the young Dane that Clijsters defeated in last year's final.

That situation has led to some charges that she is undeserving of the honour, never having won a Grand Slam

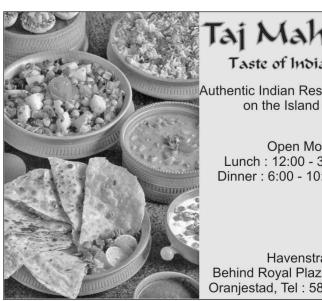
Wozniacki, who opens on Tuesday against young American Chelsey Gullickson, believes otherwise.

"I don't think there is any pressure because I think the pressure is when you're on the spot and you don't feel like you belong there, don't think you deserve to be there.

"I think I deserve to be where I am and I think that I'm feeling comfortable there."

India's Sania Mirza continued her run of good form in New York by defeating Michelle Larcher de Brito of Portugal 6-3, 6-2 in a US Open first-round tie on Mon-



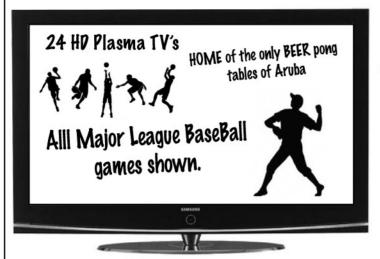


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thriller

ISTANBUL (AFP) - The United States narrowly avoided a shock upset at the hands of Group B rivals Brazil to come through 70-68 winners at the World Basketball Championships here on Monday.

With just two groups in action all eyes were focusing on USA and Brazil, in one of the clashes of the tournament to date.

After cruising in their opening two games, USA were caught off guard by Brazil early with Tiago Splitter (13 points, 10 rebounds) and Marcus Viera (16 points) rattling the American defence for a 46-43 half-time lead.

The USA were able to regain the lead in the third quarter, going into the final quarter just 2 points in arrears insuring an exciting finale.

The drama prevailed, with Kevin Durant (27 points, 10 rebounds) fouling Marcelo Huertas as he attempted to tie the game up at 70-70.

Missing his first from the foul line, Huertas then missed his second on purpose, rebounding his own shot before off loading to team-mate Leandro Barbosa under the hoop. Barbosa could not make the shot allowing the USA to hold on.

In the big group C clash of the day Slovenia were able turn around a 5 point half time deficit to prevail 91-84 over Croatia.

The Croats fell apart in the third quarter, managing just 15 points compared to the Slovenians 26.

It was an all round improved team effort from the Slovenians after their heavy defeat to the USA on Sunday, with four players ending the game in double figures (Uros Slokar 15, Jaka Lakovic 15, Bostjan Nachbar 11, Goran Dragic 14).

Group B also saw the clash of the two teams yet to record a win - Iran and Tunisia.

Tunisia started slowly and were never able to recover with Iranian Hamed Haddadi impressing with a 23 point, 13 rebound performance to lead his team to a comfortable 71-58 victory.

In another mismatch Australia walked over exhausted Group A rivals Germany 78-43.

Both sides experienced reverse fortunes Sunday with Australia shocked by Argentina, as Germany won a thriller in overtime against Serbia.

Australian youngster Patrick Mills wore down an already tired Germany with his blistering pace to ensure he would finish with 16 points and 7 assists.

"It was just a matter of time," Australian team member Brad Newley said of his team finally playing to expectations.

"We've been playing too well the past three months to let it all go in one game."

In other group A action, and Argentina Serbia recorded easy wins over Jordan and Angola respectively.

Dusko Savanovic and Marko Kaselj led the Serbs with 21 points each while Kosta Perovic finished with 20 in their 112 - 69 victory. Luis Scola would top-score with 32 for Argentina in their 90-70 win.

USA escape in Istanbul Manny to White Sox on waivers a done deal



Manny Ramirez's days in Dodger blue ended yesterday, when Los Angeles let him go to the Chicago White Sox on a waiver claim.

Ramirez was acquired via a pure waiver claim, meaning there will be no players going to the Dodgers. The White Sox confirmed the transaction via a press release.

The White Sox on Friday won the exclusive rights to Ramirez over claims by Texas and Tampa Bay because Chicago has the lesser record of the three. The Dodgers had until Tuesday morning to exercise one of three options: work out a trade with the White Sox, pull him off waivers and keep him or let him go and get nothing back in return. The Dodgers opted for the latter

The White Sox moved right-hander Jake Peavy to the 60-man disabled list to make room on the 40-man roster for Ramirez.

Ramirez was initially reported to be seeking a contract extension in return for waiving a no-trade clause, which includes waiver claims, with the White Sox balking at that request. Apparently the extension was dropped when Ramirez saw that he had become a bench player with the Dodgers. Eligible for free agency after the season, he has a better chance to audition for a job for next year as a fulltime designated hitter for the White Sox, who will be responsible for the remaining \$3.8 million on his contract.

The 38-year-old, a 12-time All-Star who ranks 14th among baseball's all-time leaders with 554 career nome runs, will move back to the American League, where he played parts of 16 seasons, hit 510 of those homers and won two World Series rings

with the Red Sox. He will become Chicago's primary designated hitter over the season's final 32 games, and the team hopes it gets a motivated talent, just as the Dodgers did when they acquired him from the Red Sox in a July 2008 Trade Deadline deal.

Ramirez tore up the National League after the trade, hitting .396 with 17 homers and 53 RBIs in 53 games as the Dodgers won the NL West and advanced to the Championship Series, which they lost to the Phillies in five games.

Probably not coincidentally, the Dodgers decided to let the White Sox take Ramirez and his \$4.3 million in remaining salary shortly after his final act as a Dodger -- getting ejected from Sunday's 10-5 loss to the Rockies after one pitch while pinchhitting with the bases loaded in the sixth inning.

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WASHINGTON (AFP) - Former ace pitcher Roger Clemens pleaded not guilty Monday to charges of perjury and obstruction of Congress in a probe of doping in baseball.

Clemens appeared before US District Judge Reggie Walton for an arraignment on six counts of lying to Congress when he denied taking performance-enhancing drugs in a 2008 hearing before US lawmakers.

"Not guilty, your honor," a somber-looking Clemens said when asked for his plea. A trial was tentatively set for April 5 after lawyers said they needed to review vast amounts of evidence.

Lead defense attorney Rusty Hardin said Clemens



agreed to waive his right to a speedy trial because of the "voluminous" amounts of evidence that his team wanted to examine.

This includes "a good deal of scientific evidence that needs to be tested," Hardin

Lead prosecutor Steven Durham said the government was prepared to meet the requests for evidence and received the judge's permission to hand over evidence from a grand jury investigation that resulted in Clemens being indicted August 19.

The judge set a status hearing for December 8 and said another hearing would be held March 28 to allow the defense to submit motions in

mum of 30 years in prison and a 1.5 million-dollar fine if convicted on all charges, but sentencing guidelines would typically mean he would face between 15 or 21 months in prison.

the case. Clemens faces a maxi-

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FIFA inspectors finish their Euro tour in Madrid

MADRID (AFP) - A delegation of FIFA inspectors arrived in the Spanish capital on Monday on the last leg of their European tour of bidders to host the 2018/2022 World Cup.

Clemens, a seven-time Cy Young Award winner as top pitcher, contradicted his former trainer, Brian McNamee, at a February 2008 hearing before the House of Representatives Committee on Oversight

McNamee said he injected Clemens with steroids and human growth hormone more than 30 times between 1998 and 2001.

and Government Reform.

The indictment says Clemens obstructed a congressional inquiry, lied to Congress and committed perjury with 15 statements made under oath, including his denials of ever taking human growth hormone or steroids.

Clemens, 48, won 354 games and struck out 4,672 batters while compiling a 3.12 career earned-run average over 23 major league seasons with the Boston Red Sox, New York Yankees, Toronto Blue Jays and Houston Astros.

Spain, who won the World Cup for the first time in South Africa this summer, have a joint bid to host the tournament with Portugal.

'We've started to work with the organising bid committee of Spain and Portugal, we've received a complete presentation and all the requested information has been received by us," delegation chief Harold Mayne-Nicholls told a press conference.

"These are the last European countries that we're visiting, the seventh candidate, the United States and Qatar are remaining.

"Our aim is to prepare the most objective report possible for the FIFA executive committee who will decide on December 2 where the 2018 and 2022 World Cups will be played," added the Chilean.

The next World Cup will take place in Brazil in four years time.

The candidates to host the 2018 World Cup are England, Russia, the United States, joint bids Spain/Portugal and Netherlands/Belgium.

Bids for the 2022 events have been received from Australia, England, Netherlands/Belgium, Japan, South Korea, Qatar, Russia, Spain/Portugal and the United States.

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